



# Litter Picks

Electronic Newsletter

## October 2006

Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, Division of Environmental Enhancement  
**P.O. Box 1105, Richmond, Virginia 23218.** (804) 698-4055 Fax (804) 698-4224.  
DEQ's Community Involvement Initiative: The Department of Environmental Quality is dedicated to helping the public better understand DEQ's role in protecting the environment, and to involving the public more effectively in environmental decision making. **Please note our new P.O. Box and Zip Code.**

*Welcome to Litter Picks, a look at litter prevention news in the Commonwealth and across the nation. We hope that some of this information is helpful to you in your programs, and hope you'll help us with news from your area related to litter prevention and awareness. Had a successful clean up event? Recognized companies or citizens for their clean up efforts? Let us know by sending this information to Sheila Barnett at*

*[smbarnett@deq.virginia.gov](mailto:smbarnett@deq.virginia.gov).*

### EPA Announces Grant Funds Available

The EPA recently released an announcement of the availability of funds and is soliciting creative proposals for the testing of innovative and collaborative approaches to:

1. Restore contaminated properties to environmental and economic vitality
2. Increase America's homeland security
3. Promote stewardship and resource conservation consistent with the Agency's Resource Conservation Challenge
4. Encourage voluntary efforts to clean up sites.

The EPA is interested in supporting short-term (one to two-year) projects that produce results and are ready for "real world" practical application in a short period of time. The projects should have the potential to lead to long-term and dramatic environmental improvements in various business sectors, geographic regions and government policies.

Proposals must be submitted by November 6, 2006. Contact Mike Giuranna (215) 814-3298 or [giuranna.kike@epa.gov](mailto:giuranna.kike@epa.gov)

### Gateway Streetscape Foundation Holds a Two-Day Cleanup

**Martinsville and Henry County** residents removed trash and beautified J. Frank Wilson Park while others removed trash from the Smith River and its tributaries and banks. Lois Christensen, the executive director of **Gateway Streetscape Foundation** estimated that approximately 50 people volunteered on October 7 to clean up the Smith River. Last February, 10 tons of trash was collected from in and around the river. Ms. Christensen estimates that approximately two tons would be removed during this clean up. Ms. Christensen believes that the river is looking much better because people are taking more pride in their community.

The spring clean up was so successful that Gateway Streetscape Foundation decided to make the fall clean up a two-day event. On October 6, volunteers collected 28 bags of trash from U.S. 220 South as part of the cleanup.

Contact Lois Christensen at (276)634-4674 or [gateway@co.henry.va.us](mailto:gateway@co.henry.va.us)

### Calendar of Events:

#### October:

- 14 **Albemarle County**, Rivanna Household Hazardous Waste Special Collection Day, October 14 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. Call (434) 906-0763 or [www.rivanna.org](http://www.rivanna.org)
- 20 **Hampton** Tour de Trash. 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. Call the Hampton Clean City Commission to register at (757) 727-6394 or go to [http://www.hampton.va.us/hccc/ww\\_form.php](http://www.hampton.va.us/hccc/ww_form.php)

#### November:

- 5 **Roanoke** Valley, Household Hazardous Waste Day, 12 noon – 3 p.m. Tinker Transfer Station. 1020 Hollins Road. Residents must pre-register by calling (540) 387-6225.

### How are your Fall Cleanups Going?

I see that many of you have litter cleanups registered on the National Public Lands Day website and on the Virginia Clean Waterways website. Please let me know how your clean ups are going so that I can include information about them in the November edition of "Litter Picks." Sheila Barnett (804) 698-4055 or [smbarnett@deq.virginia.gov](mailto:smbarnett@deq.virginia.gov)

### Clean Valley Council's Fall Cleanup

Approximately 800 people pre-registered to participate in the cleanup organized by the **Clean Valley Council** on October 7. The event was supported and co-sponsored by local governments, nonprofit agencies, and by the Roanoke Times. Anne Masters described the support that the cleanup received by saying that this year's valley wide cleanup project caught on like a runaway train.

Groups cleaned up along the Roanoke River in **Salem** as part of the annual Fall Waterway Cleanup Day in the **Roanoke Valley**.

Volunteers cleaned up the usual discarded debris, while some were determined to remove old carpeting. The carpet was difficult to remove and volunteers had to cut it into pieces to remove it from sites.

For more information contact Anne Masters at (540) 345-5523 or [orAnn@cleanvalley.org](mailto:orAnn@cleanvalley.org)

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